

Session 2

Dinosaur Footprints in the Bible?

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Synopsis

Have you ever wondered what the Bible says about dinosaurs? Are dinosaurs relevant to the Gospel message? When secular scientists seek to reconstruct the past, they engage their worldview based on a set of presuppositions about origins. But God's eyewitness account of creation in the Bible guides us in interpreting the clues we find in the fossils of those amazing creatures called dinosaurs. Discover how the true history of dinosaurs, based on a biblical worldview, teaches us much about God's plan of redemption for mankind. Dinosaurs truly can be a great story for evangelism!

Summary

The age of dinosaurs, as we are told to have predated man between 250-65 million years ago, is a conjecture of the past. When secular scientists seek to reconstruct the past, they engage their worldview based on a set of presuppositions about origins. This talk highlights the limitations of science by differentiating origins or historical science, which relies on eye-witness accounts, from operational science that relies on the scientific method for observable and repeatable experiments.

In contrast, God's eyewitness account of creation in the Bible guides us in interpreting the clues we find in the fossils of those amazing creatures called dinosaurs. In tracking dinosaur footprints in scripture, the Bible tells a consistent, coherent, and defensible account on five dinosaur ages:

1. **Formed** as beasts in creation on day six when humankind was also created (Genesis 1:25),
2. **Fallen** through the curse on creation after the Fall of Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:14),
3. **Flooded** in a global catastrophe, but about 55 dinosaur kinds were preserved through the Ark (Genesis 7:23),
4. **Faded**, after repopulated the earth, during the post-flood climate change and encounters with human tribes, and gradually went extinct (Job 40:15),
5. **Found** again as fossils, which were named "dinosaurs", a modern term invented to describe such "terrible lizards" by Sir Richard Owen in 1842.

Despite the popular theory of a meteorite impact, dinosaur extinction remains a mystery. As dinosaurs slowly died out over the years, all that was left were their bones and some stories, which turned into legends about dragons. Various cultures around the world have documented their encounters with dragons in drawings, carvings, and sculptures as recently as several thousand years ago. In these stories, the depicted dragons match accurately with the dinosaur kinds in the modern classification.

This recent history of dinosaurs is supported by the discovery of dinosaur soft tissues and proteins such as collagen, haemoglobin, osteocalcin, actin, and tubulin from the bone of a supposedly 68 million-year-old *Tyrannosaurus rex*. It is impossible that these organic

materials could still remain after millions of years. In the biblical worldview, the recent history of dinosaurs teaches us much about God's plan of redemption for mankind. Dinosaurs truly can be a great story for evangelism!

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